

In re Application of:

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Group Art Unit 1772

Serial No. 09/606,219

Examiner: P. Nordmeyer

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For: **A METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A SHAPE BODY CONTAINING A STARCH, A HOMOGENISED MASS CONTAINING STARCH AND A DEVICE3 FOR MANUFACTURING A SOFT CAPSULE**



ATTACHMENT A - MARKED-UP COPY OF CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend claims 12, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20 and 21 as follows:

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12. (Amended) A homogenised starch-containing mass, containing preferably at least 45% by weight of an amorphous starch with an amylopectine content of greater or equal to 50% by weight with respect to the weight of the starch in water-free condition, water, at least one organic softener in at least 12% by weight with respect to the weight of the water-free starch, wherein the limiting viscosity index of the homogenised mass is at least 40 ml/g[, preferably at least 50 ml/g and even more preferably at least 60 ml/g].

15. (Amended) A homogenised mass according to claim 13, wherein the mass contains glycerine monostearate and lecithin in a weight ratio of 1:1.5[, preferably 1:1.2 and even more preferred 1:1].

16. (Amended) A homogenised mass according to claim 12,

wherein the mass additionally contains an aggregate in a weight range of 3.5% by weight to 15% by weight with respect to the total weight of the mass, [preferably of 5% by weight to 8% by weight,] wherein the aggregate is selected from the group consisting of carbonates and/or hydrogen carbonates of alkali and/or earth alkali ions, preferably calcium carbonate, amylases, further decomposing agents, colourings, preservatives, anti-oxidants, physically and/or chemically modified biopolymers and vegetable polypeptides.

18. (Amended) A shape body, in particular soft capsule casing, according to claim 17, wherein the shape body has an elongation at rupture of at least 100%[, preferably at least 160% and even more preferred 240%,] at 25°C and 60% relative humidity.

19. (Amended) A shape body, in particular soft capsule casing according to claim 17, wherein the shape body at 25°C and 60% relative air humidity has a strength σ_m of at least 2 MPa[, preferably a strength in the range of 3.5 MPa to 8 MPa and even more preferred from 4 MPa to 6.5 MPa].

20. (Amended) A shape body according to claim 17, wherein the shape body is a soft capsule and that the capsule casing comprises a thickness in the region between 0.1 and 0.2 mm[, preferably between 0.2 and 0.6 mm].

21. (Amended) A shape body, in particular soft capsule casing, according to claim 17, wherein the shape body consists of

a multi-layered film and that at least two of the [films] layers have a different chemical composition.

Please add the following newly submitted claims:

23. (New) A homogenised starch-containing mass according to claim 12 wherein the limiting viscosity index of the homogenised mass is at least 50 ml/g.

24. (New) A homogenised starch-containing mass according to claim 12 wherein the limiting viscosity index of the homogenised mass is at least 60 ml/g.

25. (New) A homogenised mass according to claim 15, wherein the mass contains glycerine monostearate and lecithin in a weight ratio of 1:1.2.

26. (New) A homogenised mass according to claim 15, wherein the mass contains glycerine monostearate and lecithin in a weight ratio of 1:1.

27. (New) A homogenised mass according to claim 16, wherein the mass additionally contains an aggregate in a weight range of 5% by weight to 8% by weight.

28. (New) A shape body, in particular soft capsule casing, according to claim 18, wherein the shape body has an elongation at rupture of at least 160% at 25°C and 60% relative humidity.

29. (New) A shape body, in particular soft capsule casing, according to claim 18, wherein the shape body has an elongation at rupture of at least 240% at 25°C and 60% relative humidity.

30. (New) A shape body, in particular soft capsule casing according to claim 19, wherein the shape body at 25°C and 60% relative air humidity has a strength, σ_m , in the range of 3.5 MPa to 8 Mpa.

31. (New) A shape body, in particular soft capsule casing according to claim 19, wherein the shape body at 25°C and 60% relative air humidity has a strength, σ_m , in the range of 4 MPa to 6.5 Mpa.

32. (New) A shape body according to claim 20, wherein the shape body is a soft capsule and that the capsule casing comprises a thickness in the region between 0.2 and 0.6 mm.